

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 are currently pending in the application; independent Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, and 14 having been amended by way of the present response. Applicants respectfully assert that support for the changes to the claims is self-evident from the originally filed disclosure, including the original claims, and that therefore no new matter has been added.

Initially, Applicants express thanks for the courtesies extended by Supervisory Patent Examiner Razavi and Examiner Wang to Applicants' personal representatives during a personal interview on April 7, 2004. In accordance with the requirements of MPEP § 713.04, Applicants respectfully present the substance of the interview as follows.

During the interview, Examiners Razavi and Wang indicated that the claims would be treated favorably if amended to recite features directed to selecting an image of a plurality of separate images. In response, Applicants have so-amended each of independent Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, and 14.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,137,468 to Martinez et al. (Martinez). Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of the claims for the following reasons.

The present invention is directed to information processing apparatuses, information processing methods, and media for storing a program which causes an information processing apparatus to execute a processing. Independent Claims 1 and 3 recite posture detecting means for detecting an angular component of a change of posture of a display screen. Independent Claim 1 recites means for selecting an image of a plurality of separate images configured to be displayed on the display screen, and displaying direction control means for displaying the plurality of images on the display screen, and for controlling a direction of

display of the selected image by rotating the selected image according to a rotation of the display screen and not rotating at least one of the other of the plurality of images.

Independent Claim 3 recites means for selecting one image from separate images configured to be displayed on the display screen, and displaying direction control means for displaying the images on the display screen, and for controlling a direction of display of the one of the images by rotating the image according to a rotation of the display screen and not rotating at least one of the other images. Independent Claims 7 and 9 recite a detection processing step of detecting an angular component of a change of posture of a display screen. Independent Claim 7 recites a selection processing step of selecting an image of a plurality of separate images, and a displaying direction control processing step of controlling a direction of display of the selected image by rotating the selected image according to a rotation of the display screen and not rotating at least one of the other of the plurality of images. Independent Claim 9 recites a selection processing step of selecting one image of separate images, and a displaying direction control processing step of controlling a direction of display of the one of images by rotating the image according to a rotation of the display screen and not rotating at least one of the other images. Independent Claims 13 and 14 recite a detection processing step of detecting an angular component of a change of posture of a display screen.

Independent Claim 13 recites a selection processing step of selecting an image of a plurality of separate images, and a displaying direction control processing step of controlling a direction of display of the selected image by rotating the selected image according to a rotation of the display screen and not rotating at least one of the other of the plurality of images. Independent Claim 14 recites a selection processing step of selecting one image of separate images, and a displaying direction control processing step of controlling a direction of display of the one of images by rotating the image according to rotation of the display screen and not rotating at least one of the other images.

Martinez is directed to a method and apparatus for altering a display in response to changes in attitude relative to a plane. As shown in Figures 5A-5C, for example, of Martinez, a laptop computer 300 contains windows 500 and 502 and icons 504-508. When the laptop 300 has been rotated 90°, display 301 is now in a portrait mode (i.e., each of windows 500 and 502, as well as icons 504-508, has been rotated 90°). When the laptop 300 has been rotated 90° in the other direction, the display 301 presents windows 500 and 502 and icons 504-508 in a portrait mode.¹ As shown in Figures 6A-6C, for example, of Martinez, an object 602 in a window 600 remains level even though the laptop computer 300 has been rotated and has changed orientation.²

Applicants respectfully assert that Martinez does not teach, however, the claimed features of selecting one of multiple separate images and controlling a direction of display by rotating the one image and not rotating another of the multiple images, as recited in each of independent Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, and 14. Rather, Applicants respectfully assert that Martinez does not show or state selecting any of multiple windows 500 and 502 and icons 504-508, as well as the object 602 in the window 600. Applicants further respectfully assert that Martinez states that a direction of the entire display is controlled by rotating each or none of the multiple windows 500 and 502 and icons 504-508, as well as the object 602 in the window 600, and does not state that one the windows 500 and 502 and the icons 504-508, or one of multiple objects 602 in the window 600 is rotated, while another of the windows 500 and 502 and the icons 504-508, or one of multiple objects 602 in the window 600 is not rotated.

Specifically, independent Claim 1 recites “means for selecting an image of a plurality of separate images configured to be displayed on the display screen . . . and displaying direction control means for displaying the plurality of separate images on said display screen,

¹ Column 4, lines 50-58, of Martinez.

² From Column 4, line 59 to Column 5, line 6, of Martinez.

and for controlling a direction of display of the selected image by rotating the selected image according to a rotation of said display screen determined by said posture detecting means and not rotating at least one of the other of the plurality of images.” Independent Claim 3 recites “means for selecting one image from separate images configured to be displayed on the display screen . . . and displaying direction control means for displaying the images on said display screen, and for controlling a direction of display of the one of the images by rotating said image according to a rotation of the display screen determined by said posture detecting means and not rotating at least one of the other images.” Independent Claim 7 recites “a selection processing step of selecting an image of the plurality of separate images . . . and a displaying direction control processing step of controlling a direction of display of the selected image by rotating the selected image according to a rotation of said display screen determined by said detection processing step and not rotating at least one of the other of the plurality of images.” Independent Claim 9 recites “a selection processing step of selecting one image of the separate images . . . and a displaying direction control processing step of controlling a direction of display of the one of the images by rotating said image according to a rotation of the display screen determined by said detection processing step and not rotating at least one of the other images.” Independent Claim 13 recites “a selection processing step of selecting an image of the plurality of separate images . . . and a displaying direction control processing step of controlling a direction of display of the selected image by rotating said selected image according to a rotation of said display screen determined by said detection processing step and not rotating at least one of the other of the plurality of images.” Independent Claim 14 recites “a selection processing step of selecting one image of the separate images . . . and a displaying direction control processing step of controlling a direction of display of the one of the images by rotating said image according to rotation of

the display screen determined by the detection processing step and not rotating at least one of the other images.”

Thus, for the above reasons Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of independent Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn and the independent claims allowed.

Applicants respectfully assert that dependent Claims 2, 4-6, 8, 10-12, and 15-17 are allowable for the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend, as well as for their own features. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of dependent Claims 2, 4-6, 8, 10-12, and 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn and the dependent claims allowed.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-17 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

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